

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



December 17, 1998

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-76-98

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
 ALL COUNTY PROBATION OFFICERS
 ALL FOSTER FAMILY AGENICES
 ALL GROUP HOME PROVIDERS
 CALIFORNIA STATE FOSTER PARENT
 ASSOCIATION

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- State Law Changes
 Federal Law or Regulation
 Change
 Court Order or Settlement
 Agreement
 Clarification Requested by
 One or More Counties
 Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLACEMENT PROGRAM

The purpose of this letter is to advise counties of the passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 2774 (Chapter 873/Statutes of 1998) which amends the Welfare & Institutions Code to allow all county social services and probation agencies to seek the California Department of Social Services' (CDSS) approval of a Transitional Housing Placement (THP) program for foster youth. This legislation becomes effective January 1, 1999.

In 1994, legislation became effective which allowed certain county social services and probation agencies to create THP pilot programs for foster youth 17 years and older. With passage of AB 2774, all counties will be able to seek approval from CDSS to create their own programs to provide supervised, semi-independent apartment living situations for foster youth who will be emancipating from the system.

Implementation of the program on a statewide basis will begin with submission of a proposals by interested counties. Proposals from those counties which submitted proposals for programs in 1994 will receive review priority. Other proposals will be reviewed in the order in which they are received. Guidelines for program proposals are available from the Foster Care Policy Bureau. During 1999, regulations will be drafted to provide policy clarity for the program.

Transitional Housing Placement programs are required to be cost neutral. Rates cannot exceed the aggregate placement costs for these youth had they not participated in the program. To be eligible for the THP program, youth must be receiving AFDC-FC, be 17 years of age and be actively involved with the county Independent Living Program.

For additional information about the THP program, please contact Maureen Geiger, Transitional Housing Coordinator, at (916) 324-8256. Questions about the licensing process for THP program providers should be directed to the appropriate District Office of Community Care Licensing.

Sincerely,

**Original Document Signed By
 Marjorie Kelly on 12/17/1998**

MARJORIE KELLY
 Deputy Director
 Children and Family Services Division